

COMMENTS ON NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLES REGARDING CIA  
CPYRGHT

The weekly newspaper Za Rubezhom, No 23, 3 to 9 June 1966, published a series of articles taken from New York Times, concerning CIA activities in various parts of the world. A major portion of an accompanying commentary by A. ALENOV and V. ANDREYEV, entitled "The Dirty Iceberg of Washington," is translated below.

From its headquarters in Langley the CIA has been directing, for almost twenty years, the criminal activities of many thousands of specialists of electronic and "traditional" espionage, and a whole army of secret agents under the guise of diplomats, Peace Corps members, journalists, writers, missionaries of American "aid," representatives of the US Information Agency, tourists, scientists, and students. Following the directives of the highest government authority and conducting a policy of "total espionage," the CIA recruits agents in its own country and in foreign countries, bribes mercenary politicians, forms political parties, organizations, and groups, prepares government coups and armed interventions, finances punitive expeditions, and organizes aggressive actions which are carried out by US imperialists against the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. It has been publicly admitted in the US that the CIA does not consider any norms of international law or official treaties, that it disregards the territorial rights of foreign countries, and frequently violates the sovereignty and independence of entire countries. The US firm of total espionage has repeatedly brought the world to the brink of a destructive military conflict.

The subversive activities of US intelligence and of its principal organ, the CIA, have for a long time aroused decided protests, not only in the countries against which the activities are directed and not only among progressive circles, including those in the US. Protests and occasional, severe criticism have been expressed in liberal bourgeois circles, which have apparently realized that the dirty activities of the CIA are discrediting the US in the whole world.....

The attempts to shield the higher government circles of the US and to relieve them of the responsibility for CIA activities have resulted in the appearance of two myths in the US press. The first one is that the CIA has been transformed into some kind of a higher power ruling over and dictating to the US government. The second myth implies that CIA activities do not reflect US foreign policy, that they are conducted independently of such policy and almost in opposition to it. Both of

these myths are false, and both are distortions of the truth. They both have the purpose of shielding those who are directly responsible for the criminal activities of US intelligence.

It is true that occasionally the interests of certain groups of US monopolistic capital predominate in the CIA. The notorious ex-director of CIA, Allen Dulles, who is credited in the US with being largely responsible for creating the US system of total espionage, was a protege of the Rockefeller group. John McCone, who replaced Dulles, was also closely associated with this group. There is no doubt that this and other groups, which understood the convenience of using intelligence as a tool, have done so in certain parts of the world for their own mercenary purposes. The CIA has undoubtedly exerted its influence, which is often determinative, on the decisions of the US government and of the highest consultative body of the White House, i.e., the National Security Council. In this sense, the term "invisible government" which has been applied to the CIA by the liberal press of the US, has been quite appropriate.

Nevertheless, CIA activities have been directed and continue to be directed by the highest government circles of the US. The articles in New York Times indicate that the CIA operates with the knowledge of "the highest political leaders of the government." In his book, The Craft of Intelligence, Allen Dulles stressed the fact that the CIA is "subordinated directly to the President." As regards the role and position of CIA in developing and implementing US foreign policy, the New York Times has given a fairly accurate definition, stating that "the CIA has become a most important tool of US foreign policy and one of the principal agencies of the US government." Therefore, the US government, and mainly the President, bear the full responsibility for the predatory activities of the CIA, its leaders, and its agents.

During the periods of disgraceful failures of the CIA, political and congressional circles in the US became more insistent in demanding the establishment of congressional control over the CIA.... All attempts to establish such control over the CIA have met with insurmountable obstacles.

In this connection, the articles in New York Times have acquired a special meaning. After reading them, one becomes convinced that their publication is a concession to the American public, which has been alarmed by the criminal activities of the CIA and which would like to see some kind of limits imposed on these activities. The newspaper articles posed questions which have worried many Americans, such as: "Is the CIA Making Policy? Has It Exceeded the Limit of Higher Political Control? Has the US Gone too Far in the Sphere of Espionage? Has the US Government Relied Too Much on Secret and Unlawful Activities, Subversive Actions, and Dirty Tricks?" However, having asked these important questions, the newspaper did not censure the American system of total espionage, but merely wondered in what doses these poisonous means of US policy should be used.

If the US political leaders and "respectable" press organs were really concerned about the prestige of their country, which is constantly being undermined by the predatory actions of US intelligence, they could have listed not only the dirty operations of CIA which are already known to all the world and which have shamefully disgraced US foreign policy, but they could also publish many other facts which are not yet known to the public.

The actions of CIA are similar to an iceberg -- the greater part of its illegal operations is concealed from the eyes of observers. The 20 correspondents and editors who worked on the CIA articles for the New York Times could have drawn a much more detailed and much more sinister picture of criminal activities of the "invisible government," for which the US government is fully responsible. Apparently, the newspaper did not want to draw such a picture. It evidently wishes to justify the CIA, while appearing to criticize it.

Such a position of a "venerable" US press organ undoubtedly reflects the fact that the circles which do not find it profitable to expose the dirty operations of the CIA are able to repulse the waves of criticism, not only in Congress but also behind the scenes of the US press.

The New York Times has done everything possible to acquaint American readers with the truth about CIA. There is no doubt that public opinion, having exposed the criminal actions of the US firm of espionage and sabotage, will pass its own severe and impartial judgement.